

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the:
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

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PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1.)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 2296SG41PCT		Date of mailing (day/month/year)	30 JUL 2004
		FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below	
International application No. PCT/SG2004/000176	International filing date (day/month/year) 10 June 2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 11 June 2003	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC Int. Cl. ⁷ H01R 13/658			
Applicant FCI ASIA TECHNOLOGY PTE LTD et al			

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- Box No. II Priority
- Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized Officer A. ALI Telephone No. (02) 6283 2607
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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/SG2004/000176

Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
 - a sequence listing
 - table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
 - in written format
 - in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
 - contained in the international application as filed.
 - filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 - furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

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Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	YES
	Claims 1-22	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	YES
	Claims 1-22	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-22	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations:

NOVELTY (N) AND INVENTIVE STEP (IS)

The following document is considered to be highly relevant:

D1: EP 0834964 (MOLEX INCORPORATED)

Claims 1-22 are not novel and lack an inventive step over D1.

This document (see figure 4) clearly discloses a connector housing 28, a plurality of terminals 48 mounted in the housing, a conductive shield 50 mounted on the housing and a conductive cover 24 for shielding the substrate. The shield has a row of upwardly protruding bumps or contacts 54 for engaging the ground shield of the header connector. A plurality of tail portions 56 projecting rearwardly of the shield engage corresponding circuit pads 58. Generally planar attachment portions 64 of the shield project from opposite ends of downwardly stepped lip 60 for engagement within lip recesses 66 in mounting arms 39 of the housing. The attachment portions are securely press-fit in a vertical direction within recesses 66 to prevent movement of the shield relative to the housing.

INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY (IA)

Claims 1-22 define subject matter that is suited to shielded electrical receptacle connector assembly field of technology.

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Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

Independent claims 1 and 12 are not fully supported by the description.

They define that the shielding member is "removably attached" to the connector housing. This will not preclude attachment by adhesive means, which the applicants are trying to avoid due to the problems cited on page 1, line 19 to page 2, line 1.

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